

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 ERDA-07 OMB-01 SAJ-01 OES-05 /101 W

----- 087734

R 190120Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3988

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

UNCLAS SUVA 526

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MNUC AS NZ FJ XP

SUBJ: FIJIAN PRIMIN ON NUCLEAR FREE PACIFIC

1. FIJI TIMES ON MAY 19 CARRIES FRONT PAGE STORY DATED LONDON QUOTING PRIMIN OF FIJI, RATU SIR KAMISESE MARA, CURRENTLY IN LONDON, AS SAYING AT ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY MEETING THAT HE HAD RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM AUSTRALIAN PRIMIN WHITLAM THAT LATTER WOULD SUPPORT NEW ZEALAND'S PROPOSAL TO MAKE QTE PACIFIC FREE OF ANY NUCLEAR DEVICES OR NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS UNQTE. ARTICLE FURTHER QUOTES SPOKESMAN AT NZ HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON THAT NEW ZEALAND IS LOOKING AT PLANS FOR PUTTING FORWARD PROPOSAL AT UN. SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT PROPOSAL IS STILL IN FORMATIVE STAGE AND HE COULD NOT RPT NOT SAY IF IT WOULD INCLUDE BAN ON US NUCLEAR-POWERED POLARIS SUBMARINES.

2. EDITORIAL IN SAME EDITION OF TIMES, REFERRING TO ABOVE, CALLS QUESTION OF US NUCLEAR SUBMARINES QTE NUB OF MATTER UNQTE SINCE BOTH AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ARE MEMBERS OF ANZUS PACT, THE EXISTENCE OF WHICH DEPENDS ON AUSTRALIA AND UNCLASSIFIED

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NZ ACCEPTANCE OF US WEAPONRY IN PACIFIC. QTE GIVEN MAYAGUEZ AFFAIR...IT IS CERTAIN THAT US WOULD NOT TAKE AT ALL KINDLY TO TWO OF ITS SPECIFICALLY TREATY-BOUND ALLIES SPONSORING MOVE WHICH WOULD EFFECTIVELY TORPEDO TREATY ITSELF. INDEED, INCIDENT

(I.E. MAYAGUEZ) WILL ONLY REINFORCE AMERICA S NEED, BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL, TO RETAIN STRONG PRESENCE IN REGION. UNQTE. EDITORIAL GOES ON TO STATE THAT THERE ARE POWERFUL POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT, PARTICULARLY IN AUSTRALIA S CASE, SINCE WHITLAM GOVT IS IN TROUBLE OVER WHAT PEOPLE SEE AS LACK OF IMPARTIALITY BETWEEN OLD SAIGON REGIME AND HANOI AND CALLOUS DISREGARD OF PLIGHT OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. WHITLAM THEREFORE MAY NOT WISH TO PROVOKE FURTHER CRITICISM BY SEEMING TO TURN HIS BACK ON US.

3. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION INFORMS EMBASSY THAT INFO CONTAINED IN PARA ONE WAS RECEIVED BY TIMES DIRECTLY FROM LONDON, NOT THROUGH MINISTRY SOURCES, AND GOF HAS IN FACT NOT BEEN INFORMED. SINCE THIS WAS NOT PART OF PRIMIN S PREPARED SPEECH, MININF ASSUMES IT WAS MADE IN OFF-THE-CUFF STATEMENT. MININF OFFICIAL INFORMED EMBASSY, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAS RECEIVED BRIEF TELEX FROM LONDON THAT PRIMIN HAS ALSO STATED THAT HE DID NOT RPT NOT THINK NUCLEAR POWERED VESSELS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE. THIS FOLLOWS ALONG LINES PRIMIN S STATEMENT DURING TV INTERVIEW IN KINGSTON (SUVA 495, NOTAL).
HALL

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR FREE ZONES, NUCLEAR POWERED SHIPS, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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